# TDMH's Needs Assessment Process

**Purpose:**  To create an evidence-based method for (1) TDMH Regional Councils to influence the design of the mental health and substance use system by identifying each region's assets and needs and for (2) TDMH to target limited State resources to more effectively and efficiently meet the identified needs.

**Specific goals:**
1. Meet block grant requirements
2. Assist regional councils in prioritizing needs
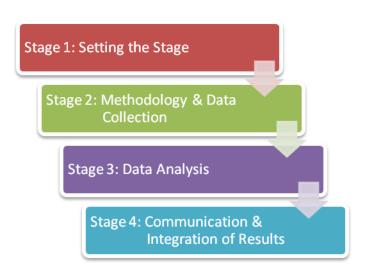3. Assist TDMH staff in planning and resource allocation

# Overview of Process

### Stage 1: Setting the Stage
Define the purpose, goals, parameters, and areas of inquiry (domains) for the assessment effort. This includes crafting meaningful ways for stakeholder involvement in the assessment design and execution.



### Stage 2:  Methodology & Data Collection
Includes a variety of methods to obtain the kinds of information needed to accomplish the purpose of your assessment.

### Phase 1: Data Indicators/Regional Councils
Regional councils will identify their region's strengths and weaknesses and prioritize its needs using previously collected data. To assist in data analysis and need prioritization, (1) TDMH will provide councils data in the form of color-coded tables and (2) a TDMH data representative will be present to help members think through the analysis and identify needs.

### Phase 2: Surveys
Design survey instrument(s) and collect survey data from identified stakeholders.

### Stage 3:  Data Analysis
Entails mining data for trends, patterns, and other useful information that can help with future service delivery planning and allocation.  Draw conclusions based upon the data reviewed and analyzed and identify the priorities and conclusions

### Stage 4:  Communication & Integration of Results
Communicating & integrating results into a strategic planning and action process is the final phase to ensure assessment information is used in meaningful ways and change to the local system is driven by local input.